Ethnic Origin and Visible Minorities

The following statistics are from the 1996 Census of Canada which occurred on May 14, 1996.

1 Highlights

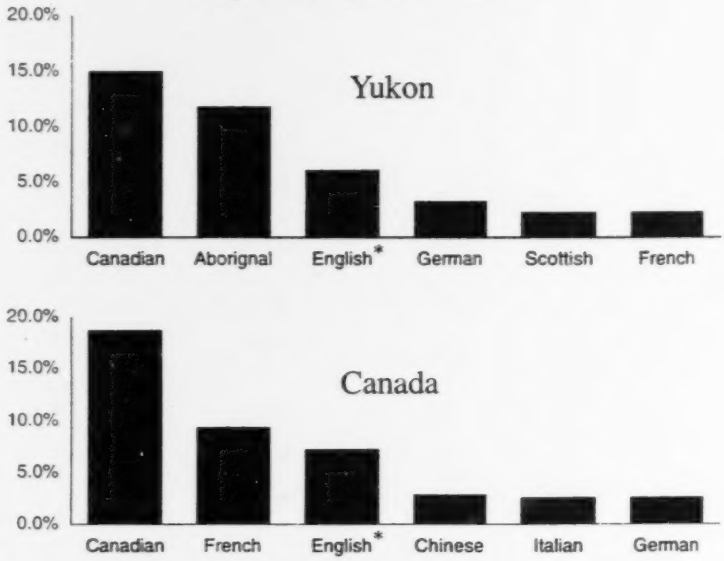
In 1996 in Canada:

- 5.3 million persons, accounting for 19% of the total population, reported their only ethnic origin as "Canadian". An additional 3.5 million persons (12%) reported both Canadian and other origins. In the Yukon, 4,595 persons, accounting for 15% of the total Yukon population, reported their only ethnic origin as "Canadian". An additional 4,405 people (14%) reported both Canadian and other origins.
- 4.9 million people, or 17% of the population, reported British Isles-only ancestry, and about 2.7 million, or 9%, reported French-only ancestry. In the Yukon, 5,230 people, or 17% of the population, reported British Isles-only ancestry, and 700, or 2%, reported French-only ancestry.
- 478 thousand persons, accounting for 1.7% of the total population, reported their only ethnic origin as "Aboriginal". In the Yukon, 3,615 persons, or 11.8% of the population, reported "Aboriginal" as their only ethnic origin.
- 3.2 million persons (11.2% of the total population) identified themselves as members of a visible minority. In the Yukon, 1,000 persons (3.3% of the total population) identified themselves as members of a visible minority.

Note to Readers:

For the 1996 census, the **format** of the ethnic origin question was modified significantly from the1991 census. The actual question was the same; however in 1991, 15 of the most frequent origins were listed on the questionnaire and respondents were asked to mark as many as were applicable ("Canadian" was not one of the choices). Two blank spaces were also provided. In 1996, the questionnaire did not provide pre-listed answer categories (origins). Instead, four blank spaces were provided, and 24 examples were given. For the first time, "Canadian" was included among the examples because it was the fifth most frequently reported origin in 1991. As expected, these modifications, particularly the inclusion of "Canadian" as an example, resulted in a major change in the way ethnic origins were reported. As a result, **the 1996 Census data on ethnic origin cannot be compared meaningfully with data from earlier censuses**.

Ethnic Origins as a Percentage of the Total Population, 1996 Census



* Note: "English" refers only to people with ethnic origins in England and does not include other parts of the British Isles.

2 Top 6 Ethnic origins, based on total responses, Yukon and communities

	Yukon Territory	Beaver Creek	Burwash Landing	Carcross	Carmacks	Dawson
Total population by ethnic origin (single and multiple responses)	30,650	130	55	280	465	1,280
Canadian - Total responses	9,000	30	0	50	40	355
Canadian - Single responses	4,595	25	0	45	25	165
Canadian - Multiple responses	4,405	10	10	20	15	190
English - Total responses	8,940	25	10	20	75	320
English - Single responses	1,865	10	0	0	10	55
English - Multiple responses	7,070	10	10	25	65	265
Scottish - Total responses	6,790	20	10	25	60	270
Scottish - Single responses	690	0	0	0	10	15
Scottish - Multiple responses	6,105	15	10	25	60	250
North American Indian - Total responses	6,055	60	45	180	295	345
North American Indian - Single responses	3,480	35	35	135	230	185
North American Indian - Multiple responses	2,575	20	10	45	70	165
Irish - Total responses	5,395	10	0	20	60	220
Irish - Single responses	490	0	0	0	10	20
Irish - Multiple responses	4,905	0	10	15	50	195
German - Total responses	4,500	15	0	15	35	195
German - Single responses	995	10	0	0	0	25
German - Multiple responses	3,500	10	0	10	30	170

	Faro	Haines Junction	Ibex Valley	Mayo	Mt. Lorne	Old Crow
Total population by ethnic origin (single and multiple responses)	1,260	570	325	320	400	275
Canadian - Total responses	420	180	80	65	130	140
Canadian - Single responses	285	100	40	40	55	10
Canadian - Multiple responses	135	75	40	25	80	135
English - Total responses	445	170	80	40	160	20
English - Single responses	170	20	20	10	30	0
English - Multiple responses	280	145	60	35	130	15
Scottish - Total responses	230	130	75	30	135	15
Scottish - Single responses	35	25	0	0	25	0
Scottish - Multiple responses	190	110	65	20	115	15
North American Indian - Total responses	80	175	95	195	45	245
North American Indian - Single responses	15	95	50	135	10	120
North American Indian - Multiple responses	60	80	50	60	35	125
Irish - Total responses	235	95	80	15	90	10
Irish - Single responses	45	10	10	0	0	0
Irish - Multiple responses	190	90	65	10	85	10
German - Total responses	140	65	50	30	50	10
German - Single responses	35	15	10	0	10	0
German - Multiple responses	100	50	45	25	40	0

2 Top 6 Ethnic origins, based on total responses, Yukon and communities

	Pelly Crossing	Ross River	Stewart Crossing	Tagish	Teslin	Two Mile Village
Total population by ethnic origin (single and multiple responses)	235	350	45	160	310	105
Canadian - Total responses	35	30	10	40	60	10
Canadian - Single responses	30	20	10	20	40	0
Canadian - Multiple responses	10	15	0	10	20	10
English - Total responses	10	30	15	35	15	0
English - Single responses	0	10	0	15	0	0
English - Multiple responses	10	25	15	20	10	0
Scottish - Total responses	10	20	15	25	30	0
Scottish - Single responses	0	10	0	10	0	0
Scottish - Multiple responses	10	15	10	15	30	0
North American Indian - Total responses	190	265	10	35	200	100
North American Indian - Single responses	185	230	0	15	150	95
North American Indian - Multiple responses	10	40	10	10	55	0
Irish - Total responses	10	10	10	20	35	0
Irish - Single responses	0	0	0	0	0	0
Irish - Multiple responses	10	10	10	10	20	10
German - Total responses	10	25	15	30	20	0
German - Single responses	0	10	0	10	10	0
German - Multiple responses	10	15	15	20	15	0

	Two and 1/2 Mile Village	Upper Liard	Watson Lake	Whitehorse	Yukon, Unorganized
Total population by ethnic origin (single and multiple responses)	45	110	995	20,965	1,855
Canadian - Total responses	10	0	255	6,355	660
Canadian - Single responses	0	0	155	3,070	440
Canadian - Multiple responses	0	0	100	3,290	225
English - Total responses	0	0	250	6,810	380
English - Single responses	0	0	50	1,360	100
English - Multiple responses	0	0	205	5,455	280
Scottish - Total responses	10	10	185	5,260	245
Scottish - Single responses	0	0	15	520	20
Scottish - Multiple responses	0	10	170	4,740	220
North American Indian - Total responses	40	110	215	2,750	340
North American Indian - Single responses	35	95	105	1,305	190
North American Indian - Multiple responses	10	15	110	1,455	155
Irish - Total responses	0	0	195	4,010	285
Irish - Single responses	0	0	20	325	25
Irish - Multiple responses	0	0	170	3,685	260
German - Total responses	0	10	185	3,325	270
German - Single responses	0	0	35	695	105
German - Multiple responses	0	10	150	2,630	165

Notes: Total for Yukon Territory includes settlements and other areas not individually reported in this table. *Carcross includes Carcross (settlement) and Carcross 4 (reserve) as defined by Statistics Canada. ** Teslin includes Teslin (village) and Teslin Post 13 (reserve) as defined by Statistics Canada. *** Whitehorse includes Whitehorse(city) and Whitehorse unorganized as defined by Statistics Canada. Figures presented for Tagish and Yukon Unorganized have been adjusted to reflect a correction to the 1996 Census. The communities of Two Mile Village and Two and 1/2 Mile Village are located near Watson Lake.

4 Visible Minority Population, Yukon

In Canada in 1996, 3.2 million people identified themselves as members of a visible minority. This represents 11.2% of the total population. Three out of every ten individuals who identified themselves as visible minorities were born in Canada (28.6%), and the rest were immigrants. In the Yukon in 1996, 1,000 people identified themselves as members of a visible minority. This represents 3.3% of the total population. Four out of every ten individuals who identified themselves as visible minorities were born in Canada (41.0%), and the rest were immigrants.

	Yukon Population	% of total Yukon population	Canada Population	% of total Canadian population
Total population	30,650	100.0	28,528,125	100.0
Total visible minority population	1,000	3.3	3,197,480	11.2
Black	125	0.4	573,860	2.0
South Asian	215	0.7	670,585	2.4
Chinese	155	0.5	860,150	3.0
Korean	10	0.0	64,835	0.2
Japanese	55	0.2	68,135	0.2
Southeast Asian	200	0.7	172,765	0.6
Filipino	110	0.4	234,200	0.8
Arab/West Asian	50	0.2	244,665	0.9
Latin American	55	0.2	176,975	0.6
Visible minority, n.i.e.	10	0.0	69,745	0.2
Multiple visible minority	30	0.1	61,570	0.2
All others	29,650	96.7	25,330,645	88.8

Note: n.i.e. = not included elsewhere

Note: In some tabulations, rounded figures may not sum to totals.

Definitions

Ethnic Origin: Refers to the ethnic or cultural group(s) to which the respondent's ancestors belong. An ancestor is someone from whom a person is descended, and is usually more distant than a grandparent. Ethnic origin pertains to the ancestral roots or background of the population and should not be confused with place of birth, citizenship or nationality.
Visible Minority: Persons, other than Aboriginal peoples, who are non-Caucasian in race or non-white in colour, as defined by the Employment Equity Act (includes Chinese, South Asians, Blacks, Arabs and West Asians, Filipinos, Southeast Asians, Latin Americans, Japanese, Koreans and Pacific Islanders).
Single Response: Occurs when a respondent provides one ethnic origin only.
Multiple Response: Occurs when a respondent provides two or more ethnic origins.
Total Responses: Are the sum of single and multiple responses, and indicate the number of persons who reported a specified ethnic origin, either as their only origin or in addition to one or more other ethnic groups.

Yukon
Executive Council Office
Bureau of Statistics

Information Sheet #C96-09
May, 1998

Additional Information:
Government of Yukon
Executive Council Office
Bureau of Statistics (A-8C)
Box 2703, Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6
Telephone: (403) 667-5640; Fax: (403) 393-6203
E-mail: ybsinfo@gov.yk.ca
Website: http://yukonweb.com/government/ybs